

Remarks

This REPLY is in response to the Office Action mailed April 4, 2008. No additional fee is due with this communication.

I. Summary of Examiner's Rejections

In the Office Action mailed April 4, 2008, Claims 1, 3, 5, 7-8, 10, 29-30, 32, 34-35, 37-39, 41, and 43-45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. as being unpatentable over Park et al. (U.S. Patent Publication Number 2004/002812, hereafter Park) in view of Heckerman et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,216,134, hereafter Heckerman). Claims 4, 6, 31, 33, 40, and 42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Park in view of Heckerman and further in view of Official Notice.

II. Summary of Applicant's Amendment

The present Reply amends Claims 1, 29, and 38 leaving for the Examiner's present consideration Claims 1, 3-8, 10, 29-35, and 37-45. Reconsideration of the Application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

III. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

In the Office Action mailed April 4, 2008, Claims 1, 3, 5, 7-8, 10, 29-30, 32, 34-35, 37-39, 41, and 43-45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Park (U.S. Patent Publication Number 2004/002812) in view of Heckerman (U.S. Patent Number 6,216,134). Claims 4, 6, 31, 33, 40, and 42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Park in view of Heckerman and further in view of Official Notice.

Claim 1

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define the embodiment therein. As amended, Claim 1 defines:

1. *(Currently Amended) A method of searching a plurality of service provider content repositories, comprising:*

providing for the representation of the plurality of service provider content repositories as a virtual content repository (VCR) that includes a content model, the content model including a set of content nodes and a set of hierarchy of nodes such that a content node is created for each of the plurality of service provider content repositories, each content node identifies a service provider content repository, and each content node is associated with its own content schema, a hierarchy node is created for

different types of content available in the plurality of service provider content repositories, each hierarchy node is associated with one or more of the set of content nodes, and each hierarchy node is associated with its own hierarchy schema;

providing a plurality of application program interfaces (APIs), wherein each of the plurality of APIs corresponds to at least one application from a plurality of applications, that interface between the plurality of applications and the VCR;

wherein each one of the plurality of service provider content repositories implements a service provider interface (SPI) that includes a set of interfaces and services that each service provider repository implements and wherein each SPI enables each of the corresponding service provider content repositories to access the VCR, such that each SPI interfaces between the VCR and the corresponding service provider content repository;

displaying content nodes and hierarchy nodes of the VCR in each application to enable searching of the VCR and the service provider content repositories associated therewith;

searching the VCR for information that satisfies a search expression, including searching the VCR and the service provider content repositories associated therewith; and

providing search results.

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define the embodiment therein as providing a plurality of application program interfaces (APIs), wherein each of the plurality of APIs corresponds to at least one application from a plurality of applications, that interface between the plurality of applications and the VCR. Claim 1 has also been amended to more clearly define that each one of the plurality of service provider content repositories implements a service provider interface (SPI) that includes a set of interfaces and services that each service provider repository implements. Each SPI enables each of the corresponding service provider content repositories to access the VCR, such that each SPI interfaces between the VCR and the corresponding service provider content repository.

Park discloses a content publication system supporting real-time integration and processing of multimedia content including dynamic data. (Abstract). The content producer can use the content manipulation API 51 in the service publication server. The content manipulation API 51 checks whether the container 74 to be manipulated exists in a memory of the service publication server 4 through the container hash map module. (Paragraph [0069]). Thereafter, the content producer modifies or deletes the value of the container converted into the container DOM object or generates a new container using the content manipulation API 51. (Paragraph [0069]).

Heckerman discloses a system that provides for the graphic visualization of the categories of a collection of records. (Abstract). The user interface component inputs data from

the collection storage component and the category storage component and generates the various category graphs which are displayed on display 806. (Column 15, lines 8-12).

In the Office Action, the Examiner asserted that, in Park, each one of the plurality of service provider content repositories implements a service provider interface (SPI). As described above, Park appears to disclose that a content producer can manipulate content using a service publication server. The service publication server includes a content manipulation API which can be used to check whether a container exists in memory and then make changes to the container. Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define that each one of the plurality of service provider content repositories implements a service provider interface (SPI) that includes a set of interfaces and services that each service provider repository implements and wherein each SPI enables each of the corresponding service provider content repositories to access the VCR. Thus, while the content manipulation API in Park appears to provide an interface between a content producer and a container, the SPI in Claim 1 interfaces between the VCR and the corresponding server provider content repository. Applicant respectfully submits that Park in view of Heckerman does not disclose or render obvious this feature.

In the Office Action, the Examiner also asserted that Heckerman discloses a plurality of application program interfaces. As described above, in Heckerman, the user interface component appears to provide an interface between the data stored in the collection and category storage components *and the user*. Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define providing a plurality of application program interfaces (APIs), wherein each of the plurality of APIs corresponds to at least one application from a plurality of applications, that interface between the plurality of applications and the VCR. Heckerman does not appear to disclose a plurality of APIs, as defined in Claim 1, and instead only appears to disclose a component that can display data to a user. Applicant respectfully submits that Park in view of Heckerman does not disclose or render obvious the embodiment defined by Claim 1, as amended.

In view of the above comments, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1, as currently amended, is neither anticipated by nor obvious in view of the cited references, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 29 and 38

The comments provided above with respect to Claim 1 are hereby incorporated by reference. Claims 29 and 38 have been similarly amended to more clearly define the

embodiments therein. For similar reasons as provided above with respect to Claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 29 and 38, as amended, are likewise neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited references, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-8, 10, 30-35, 37, and 39-45

Claims 3-8, 10, 30-35, 37, and 39-45 have not been addressed separately but it is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable as depending from an allowable independent claim, and further in view of the comments provided above. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 3-8, 10, 30-35, 37, and 39-45 are similarly neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited references and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

VIII. Conclusion

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application should be allowable, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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